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Without question the best bargain ever offered. Equal to tailor made garments.
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SPECIAL.—Latest pattern Colored Body or Fancy Bosom
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SPECIAL.—Our \$3.00 and \$4.00 Stiff Hats are the Best
Values ever offered.

S. DANZIGER,

490 Commercial Street, Astoria, Oregon.

THE POWERS WANT TO FOOL UNCLE SAM

They Are Too Pleasant In Regard To
Our China Contention.

THE GUARANTEE WORTHLESS

They Already Own Chinese Territory
and Present Arrangements With
U. S. Are Therefore Void.

There is, says Maurice Low in the Philadelphia Times, good reason for believing that Russia, Germany and France will in due season give the United States the written guarantee which it has demanded, that the empire of China, now in control of the powers, shall not be closed to the commerce of the United States; and there are equally good reasons for believing that these guarantees will be worthless. Germany and Russia have already announced that they have no intention of closing their ports or shutting their spheres of influence against the commerce of the world. Official declarations to that end have already been made, and will be repeated if necessary.

In fact, the diplomatic representatives of these countries in Washington profess great surprise that any further guarantees should be needed. Germany has announced to the world that the Shantung peninsula was to be thrown open and has published its tariff. Russia has declared that Taitienwan was to be as open to America and Great Britain, or any other nation, as it was to Russians. The Russian government doesn't understand why the Americans are so unreasonable and want further guarantees. Of course, if the American government wants these professions of faith put in writing—well, perhaps that may be done as an evidence of good faith and friendship. No diplomatist representing any of the interested powers will go so far as to say positively that this will be done, because it is a matter of policy which the home government alone can determine; but they intimate very strongly that after the declarations that have been made the others follow as a matter of course.

On the surface everything is lovely, but beneath it the twisting and turnings of diplomacy can be seen. Inasmuch as the Chinese policy of the government is a thing which will occupy

much space in the newspapers during the coming months, and as it is a subject not very well understood by most people, it is not out of place to enter into a brief explanation.

China at the present time is being cut up, not by actual annexation, but by the more insidious process of leases, concessions and spheres of influence. Thus Germany, nominally to seek redress for the killing of German missionaries, forced the Chinese government to "lease" it the Shantung peninsula. Nominally this vast tract of territory is leased to Germany absolutely, and as a matter of fact it has passed into the direct possession of Germany. Germany makes the tariff and collects the revenues; Germany makes the laws and administers them; the Chinese government is a mere looker-on.

It is the same in the British, Russian and French concessions. The force of nominally pretending they are Chinese is still kept up. The truth is that China has already alienated her territory without compensation, forced to it by the threat of armed seizure if she resisted, and the governments who have profited by China's impotence have transferred their languages, their customs and their laws without regard to what China cares or thinks. But so long as the territory is nominally Chinese the United States can insist upon its treaty rights with China being observed and the foreign governments to play the farce as studiously polite in saying that every one of the rights of the United States shall be most carefully observed.

That is good enough for the present, but what will happen in the near future will be this: The German and Russian and British and French concessions will suddenly be transformed from concessions into possessions; instead of being territory leased they will be territory annexed. When the time is ripe for it—and shrewd observers believe that it will come in a very few years—our treaty with China will be waste paper.

The great powers of Europe want China not because they are land hungry, but because they are money hungry. They want China because it is the great commercial prize of the world. The policy of Germany and Russia so far has been to keep their colonies as much as possible for themselves, to shut out competition and prevent the foreigner from interfering with their own people. At the present time the bulk of the Chinese trade is in the hands of England, with the United States a long way behind and the rest of the world cutting only an insignificant figure. But when competition becomes keener, when American merchants are able to undersell German merchants in their own sphere of influence, when they are able to land their goods at Taitienwan and sell them cheaper than can the Russians the question is asked here how long before

the so-called "open door" will be closed by Germany and Russia?

The cleverness of Russian diplomacy is proverbial, therefore it will surprise no one to hear that the Russians already are prepared to show to the people of the United States how ill-founded are their fears are. In the building of the colossal Trans-Siberian railway the Russian government has been forced to buy locomotives, machinery, rails and other things in this country. They have bought them because they could buy better advantage here than elsewhere. Just the same as they would have placed their orders in London or Berlin if the markets had been able to offer more favorable terms. Yet because the Russians bought in the American market they point to that as an indication of their welcoming American competition. This was what Count Cassini, the Russian ambassador, said today to the writer. These purchases indicated the purposes of the government to throw Taitienwan open to the world and letting commerce find its natural level. The orders for steel rails placed in the rolling mills of Pennsylvania and the cruisers built at the Cramp's yards are doubtless expected to serve a double purpose, not the least being that of throwing dust in the eyes of America.

No nation is watching the development of our Chinese policy with keener interest than the Japanese, who know what Russian diplomacy means. While the Japanese legation in this city will not admit that it has received any special instructions, in fact the impression is sought to be conveyed that Japan is merely a passive spectator. It have the highest authority for saying that if the guarantee demanded by the administration from France, Russia and Germany are given, Japan will at once follow our lead and make a similar demand. Japan received verbal assurances after she had humbled China and she knows precisely what they are worth—that is nothing.

HIGHER FREIGHT RATES

The Upward Course Has Been Proceeding Steadily for More Than a Month.

Chicago Times-Herald.

Like every other commodity in the market, railroad transportation is steadily advancing. The upward course of freight rates began more than a month ago, and it has been proceeding very steadily since. It shows no sign of having reached the highest point or of having taken in all the articles on the list that it is intended to cover. Grain, coal and iron were the first to be effected, but gradually other things were embraced, and now it is intimated that no commodity is to be allowed to escape, but all will have to bear an equitable proportion in the increased cost of transportation. Plausible reasons are advanced by traffic

officials for the action they have taken in this regard. It costs a great deal more to carry on the work than it did a year ago. The price of every article required in the maintenance and operation of a railroad has gone up immensely, and unless the roads can get more for the work done by them they will have to go into bankruptcy, while every other industry is prospering.

Throughout the period of general depression many attempts were made to advance and maintain rates. They all proved abortive. If the advances were put into effect at all they were not maintained for two days together. Now it is declared with the greatest of confidence the advances will hold. There is an immense business to be handled, with comparatively limited facilities for handling it. Consequently shippers will be willing to pay the higher rates if they are thereby assured of prompt service. The roads on this occasion have been getting the benefit of the advances from the very moment they went into effect. Owing to the scarcity of cars traffic officials refused to make contracts in advance, so that the higher rates were collectable at once. Opposition to these advances was prevented by making them gradually. One thing at a time was taken, so that any general outcry against the rise was avoided. This course is to be adhered to in whatever future action of the same kind may be taken.

THE GREAT SALT LAKE.

The reason why the great Salt Lake in Utah is growing smaller, according to Prof. James E. Tammage, is that the volume of water from its four tributary rivers is being more and more diverted by irrigation. Professor Tammage says that the water of the lake is growing each year more acid as it shrinks in size, and he thinks that in another hundred years it will be replaced by a glittering bed of dry salt.

LUCKY FOR HER.

Miss Gabby—I think I am lucky to have this mole on my cheek.
Mr. Askit—Why?
Miss Gabby—Well, it might be on my nose, you know.

Miss Alma Powell, a member of the Castle Square Opera company, is going to study for the degree of master of laws, having already completed the course in the woman's law class at the New York University. She studied music abroad, where she made her professional debut in "The Magic Flute." She is related on her mother's side to Daniel Webster.

Many New York corporations have protested against the making public of their reports under the franchise tax law.

RADICAL LITERATURE.

We know of only one book store in Portland where so complete a line of novels can be obtained, on all the radical subjects of the day under discussion as can be seen at Jones' Book Store, 291 Alder street.

BUSINESS POINTERS.

Fresh cracked crabs at the National Cafe.

Hire's root beer at the Spa candy factory.

Burbank potatoes, \$1 a sack, at Pat's Market.

Jeff's is "the only" restaurant. White cooks.

Best 15-cent meal, Rising Sun Restaurant, 612 Commercial street.

Chili con carne and frijoles at Lee Herring's National Cafe every day.

Until further notice the Astoria creamery will pay 24¢ cents for butter fat.

Cold lunch, pickled pigs' feet, oysters, sheep's tongue, etc., at the National Cafe.

Do you know Snodgrass makes Stamp Photos? Call and see them. They are all the go.

Cream Pure Rye, America's finest whiskey. The only pure goods; guaranteed rich and mellow. John L. Carlson, sole agent.

Buy Roslyn coal; the best coal for heating and cooking purposes on the market. George W. Sanborn, Agent. Telephone 1311.

Boquet de Cuba and Key West Gern are the finest 5-cent cigars that ever came to this market. Henry Roe, opposite brewery.

Victors from Portland and elsewhere will find the pleasantest rooms in Astoria at the Hay City house, 179 Tenth street. Mrs. E. S. Andrews, proprietress.

Kelley's transfer wagons deliver box wood to any part of the city on short notice. All orders left at Zapf's furniture store, 629 Commercial street, will receive prompt attention. Telephone 2144.

The following reduced rates are in effect via the O. R. & N. between Astoria, Portland and intermediate points along the river: Fare, 25 cents; section, 25 cents; lower or upper berth, 50 cents each; stateroom, 75 cents.

Go to the Columbia Electric and Repair Company for all kinds of new and repair work, from a cambric needle to a bicycle, boiler or engine. Quick work and satisfaction guaranteed. Logging machinery of all kinds a specialty. Shop opposite Ross, Higgins & Co.

Vandals have mutilated the statue facing the Stadtschloss, at Potsdam.

Dr. H. H. Haden, Summit, Ala., says, "I think Kodol Dyspepsia Cure is a splendid medicine. I prescribe it, and my confidence in it grows with continued use." It digests what you eat and quickly cures dyspepsia and indigestion. For sale by CHARLES ROGERS.

Dr. W. Wilson, Italy Hill, N. Y., says: "I heartily recommend One Minute Cough Cure. It gave my wife immediate relief in suffocating asthma." Pleasant to take. Never fails to quickly cure all coughs, colds, throat and lung troubles.

Surgeon General Wyman says Key West yellow fever has run its course.

You never know what form of blood poison will follow constipation. Keep the liver clean by using DeWitt's Little Early Risers and you will avoid trouble. They are famous little pills for constipation and liver and bowel troubles. For sale by CHARLES ROGERS.

The Greater American Exposition at Omaha, Neb., closed \$100,000 in debt.

"I had dyspepsia fifty-seven years and never found permanent relief until I used Kodol dyspepsia Cure. Now I am well and feel like a new man." writes S. J. Fleming, Murray, Neb. It is the best digestant known. Cures all forms of indigestion. Physicians everywhere prescribe it. For sale by CHAS. ROGERS.

A Texas convict forged a pardon and walked out of the Rusk penitentiary unmolested.

Geo. Noland, Rockland, O., says "My wife had piles forty years. DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve cured her. It is the best salve in America." It heals everything and cures all skin diseases. For sale by CHARLES ROGERS.

A petrified snake weighing more than 100 pounds and 27 feet long has been found near Pottsville, Pa.

LaGrippe, with its after effects, annually destroys thousands of people. It may be quickly cured by One Minute Cough Cure, the only remedy that produces immediate results in coughs, colds, croup, bronchitis, pneumonia and throat and lung troubles. It will prevent consumption. For sale by CHARLES ROGERS.

Andrew Carnegie has sent \$17,000 to the ladies of the A. and I. of Denmark, Tex., to pay for its building.

J. D. Bridges, Editor "Democrat," Lancaster, N. H., says: "One Minute Cough Cure is the best remedy for croup I ever used." Immediately relieves and cures coughs, colds, croup, asthma, pneumonia, bronchitis, grippe and all throat and lung troubles. It prevents consumption. For sale by CHARLES ROGERS.

Of over 48,503 persons examined during the past year for the federal civil service, not quite 75 per cent passed.

"I wouldn't be without DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve for any consideration," writes Thos. B. Rhodes, Centerville, O. Infallible for piles, cuts, burns and skin diseases. Beware of counterfeits. For sale by CHARLES ROGERS.

It will not be a surprise to any who are at all familiar with the good qualities of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to know that people everywhere take pleasure in relating their experience in the use of that splendid medicine and in telling of the benefit they have received from it. Of bad colds it has cured, of threatened attacks of pneumonia it has averted and of the children it has saved from attacks of croup and whooping cough. It is a grand, good medicine. For sale by Chas. Rogers.

It may be that Queen Victoria will have to take personal command of the English forces in the Ladysmith district.

USED BY BRITISH SOLDIERS IN AFRICA.

Capt. C. G. Dennison is well known all over Africa as the commander of the forces that captured the famous rebel Gaishe. Under date of Nov. 4, 1897, from Vryburg, Bechuanaland, he writes: "Before starting on the last campaign I bought a quantity of Chamberlain's Cough, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, which I used myself when troubled with bowel complaint, and had given to my men, and in every case it proved most beneficial." For sale by Chas. Rogers.

It is real mean of Gen. Otis to wait until the Filipinos get into their new trenches before driving them out.

CHAMBERLAIN'S PAIN BALM CURES OTHERS, WHY NOT YOU?

My wife has been using Chamberlain's Pain Balm Balm, with good results, for a lame shoulder that has pained her continually for nine years. We have tried all kinds of medicines and doctors without receiving any benefit from any of them. One day we saw an advertisement of this medicine and thought of trying it, which we did, with the best of satisfaction. She has used only one bottle and her shoulder is almost well.—Adolph L. Dilleit, Manchester, N. H. For sale by Chas. Rogers.

The blooming Britons are learning to their sorrow that the blooming Boer is a blooming fighter, don't you know.

DEAFNESS CANNOT BE CURED

By local application, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, 25c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.